



International School of Kenya

Empowering students to create solutions for tomorrow's challenges

November 24, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Parent Update - 2020-11-24 - Reminder Holiday Season Gatherings

Dear ISK Community,

For many families, the upcoming holiday season is about getting together with family and friends and sharing a meal. Yet this holiday season, as COVID-19 cases have risen worldwide, dinner parties and other social get-togethers are to be met with caution. In particular, public health experts state that small household meetings are among the main reasons why cases of COVID-19 are on the rise again. However, with some additional planning, your family can make lasting memories while minimizing the risk of being exposed to or spreading COVID-19 to loved ones.

As an example, the CDC suggests that celebrating virtually or with the people you live with is the safest choice. If you choose to attend a gathering, make your celebration safer. Take these steps if attending a holiday gathering:

- **Keep the gathering small & short.** Keep your guest list as small as possible, and reduce the amount of time you would typically visit.
- **Wear cloth face coverings and keep your distance.** People from the same household can sit together but arrange for those who don't live together to stay 2 meters apart--especially while eating. Remind everyone to wear cloth face coverings whenever they are not eating or drinking.
- **Open windows & stay outside when possible.** If you're indoors, open windows for better ventilation if possible. If weather permits, gather outdoors. Remember to maintain physical distance and wear cloth face coverings even outside.

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- **Serve safely.** Avoid going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled, such as in the kitchen. Choose one person to do the serving to avoid everyone touching serving utensils. Use single-use options, like salad dressing and condiment packets, and disposable items like food containers, plates, and utensils. Remind children to wash their hands often, and keep hand sanitizer readily available.

As always, remember ISK's 4 Ws this Holiday Season:

- **Wear Your Mask** - We always wear our masks in shared/public spaces and when working with others.
- **Watch Your Distance** - We always maintain at least 2 meters distance
- **Wash Your Hands** - We wash our hands (for twenty seconds) throughout the day.
- **Work Together** - We follow health and safety protocols both on and off campus to protect ourselves, each other and our whole Kenyan community.

In my household, we share what we are most grateful for before diving into our Thanksgiving meal as we celebrate this holiday. I can honestly say that I am thankful for the opportunity to lead this community. While it's been a trying year for all, I am grateful for the lessons learned and the phenomenal team of professionals at ISK. Thank you for entrusting your children's education with us.

I wish a Happy Thanksgiving and upcoming Hanukkah to all who celebrate. Also, a belated Happy Diwali to all who celebrate.

Warmest Regards,
David G.Henry

PS: We will be sending an update on ISK's January return to learning in the next short while.

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